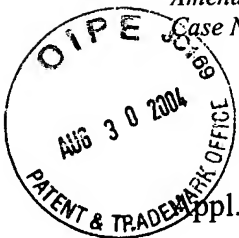


Appl. No. 10/099,738
Filed March 15, 2002
Amendment dated August 30, 2004
Case No. 4498C1US



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/099,738
Applicant(s) : Christian A. HEID et al.
Filed : March 15, 2002
TC/A.U. : 1637
Examiner : Joyce Tung
For : **EXTERNAL CONTROL REAGENTS
FOR NUCLEIC ACID
AMPLIFICATION**
Customer No. : 22896

Confirmation No.: 5560

CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAIL under 37 CFR 1.10

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" addressed to Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

Date of Deposit: 8-30-04

Signature: [Signature]
Type Name of Depositing Party: Andrew K. Finn

REMARKS AND RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action mailed March 4, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

There are no Amendments to the Specification.

There are no Amendments to the Claims. Previously presented claims begin on page 2.

There are no Amendments to the Drawings.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this paper.